

40. (Amended) An isolated attenuated respiratory syncytial virus particle which comprises a respiratory syncytial virus antigenome or genome containing at least one M2-1 gene mutation, wherein said M2-1 gene mutation encodes an amino acid exchange from a cysteine to an amino acid selected from a group comprising glycine, valine, aspartic acid, and alanine.

D5
41. (Amended) The isolated attenuated respiratory syncytial virus particle of claim 40, wherein said cysteine is selected from a group consisting of cysteine at amino acid position 7, 15, 21, and 96.

D6
43. (Amended) The isolated attenuated respiratory syncytial virus particle of claim 42, wherein the stop codon causing said C-terminal truncation is at a position selected from a group consisting of nucleotide position 7987-7989, 7990-7992, 8050-8052, 8053-8055, 8137-8139, and 8140-8142.

Please add the following new claim:

D7
44. (New) An isolated infectious respiratory syncytial virus particle which comprises a respiratory syncytial virus antigenome or genome containing at least one M2-1 gene mutation, wherein (i) at least one M2-1 gene mutation encodes an amino acid exchange from a cysteine to an amino acid selected from a group comprising glycine, valine, aspartic acid, and alanine at amino acid position 96, and (ii) cysteine residues at positions 7, 15, and 21 are retained.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to correct the typographical error in the sequence of the primer MC3. Specifically, the amended primer-sequence shows that the codon that should correspond to the identified substitution is "TGT" and not "TGA". As the Examiner noted, this error would have been apparent to one skilled in the art and the correction of this error would not be New Matter, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment to the specification.

Claims 37, 39, 40, 41 and 43 have been amended to correct claim dependencies. Claim 40 has been amended to more clearly point out what Applicants consider the invention.